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SENATOR LOUDEN: ...a cent and a quarter all the way through would certainly be in line, I would think. Any industry that has a checkoff, it's usually done to promote their own industry. And this looks like, to me, it would be another way to do it. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Cunningham, Chambers amendment, FA1669.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. You know, I guess we're, for the most part, not talking about the amendment, so I'll just talk about ethanol plants and some of the reasons I support the opening of some more ethanol plants. And some of the figures I'm going to use come directly from the ethanol plant that opened in my legislative district by Plainview. And Plainview is one of the smaller plants, in comparison to most of the plants being built. But this is some of what a small ethanol plant will provide. That particular plant hires 30 to 40 workers. I believe it's probably in the neighborhood of 33 right now. They're good paying jobs, with benefits. It's keeping people in the area, keeping them there, making a good living. They can do business in our local communities, keep students in the schools. We're having trouble with the migration of people away from the rural areas right now. The price of corn, depending on who you talk to, some say increases 3 cents, some say 15 cents. I would contend it's that much or considerably more. As I spoke this morning, when we passed LB 536 two years ago, the price of corn was \$1.80 a bushel; today, it's in the neighborhood of \$3.00 a bushel. But at 1 billion bushels of corn produced in Nebraska every year, and 35 to 40 percent of that going through ethanol plants, say, 350 million bushels going through an ethanol plant at 10 cents a bushel is \$35 million extra revenue for the state of Nebraska and for the profits of farmers. The ethanol plant at Plainview...I don't know what I did with the paper, but it adds about \$8 million in property valuation to the Plainview school district. Conservatively, they figure it's going to save state aid dollars by about \$120,000 a year, less state aid needed to go to that school district simply because of that ethanol plant being located there. Back in the days when we were talking about LB 536, we talked about cattle production and